extremists, 357 civilians and 84 Security Forces personnel were killed in the North Eastern States in various incidents of violence. Following the demands made by the general public and civil groups, a Committee headed by Justice Shri B.P. Jeevan Reddy, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India has been constituted on 19.11.2004 to review the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 as amended in 1972. Dr. S.B. Nakade, former Vice-Chancellor and Jurist, Shri P.P. Shrivastav, IAS (Retd.); former Special Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs; Lt. Gen. (Retd.) V.R. Raghavan, former Director General Military Operation and Shri Sanjoy Hazarika, journalist are the members of this Committee. The committee would review the provisions of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 and advise whether—

(i) To amend the provisions of the Act of bring them in consonance with the obligations of the Government towards protection of Human
Rights; or

(ii) To replace the Act by a more humane Act.

The committee would submit its report within a period of six months.

Suicides by farmers

†2097. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of NGOs have apprised Government of the facts of suicides by farmers in different States in the country;

(b) if so, the names of NGOs;

(c) whether Government have sent high level officers to the States to gather facts in this regard; and

(d) if so, the names of officers along with the name of respective States where they have been sent and details of reports received from them regarding those States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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